

DIGITAL ECONOMY NAVIGATOR

A human-centric approach to digital economy maturity, identifying opportunities for countries, businesses and societies.

The Digital Economy Navigator (DEN) is a global assessment tool measuring digital economy maturity through a combination of established quantitative indicators and a comprehensive global survey of 27,081 respondents in 50 countries. The Navigator serves as a guiding tool that allows countries to identify gaps and best practices, drive policy agendas for countries and international actors, and creates a platform for capacity building.

Key areas for improvement identified in the DEN

<p>Global progress in digital infrastructure is notable, yet gaps persist.</p> <p>These are most noticeable in internet coverage, speed, and affordability. Enhancing internet speeds through improved data infrastructure and promoting affordability through infrastructure sharing and public-private partnerships are key to supporting robust digital economies.</p>	<p>Progress in basic ICT skills is strong globally, but areas are still lacking.</p> <p>Advanced ICT skills and Cybersecurity need further development. Improving STEM education, supporting underrepresented groups, and implementing comprehensive cybersecurity strategies are essential for deepening digital engagement.</p>	<p>Significant progress has been made globally in digital regulation.</p> <p>There is still room for improvement, especially in developing regions. Expanding public digital services, updating regulatory frameworks, and enhancing transparency can boost public sector efficiency and citizen engagement.</p>	<p>While digital payments have advanced globally, traditional banking systems remain limited in underserved areas.</p> <p>Enhancing banking infrastructure, promoting financial inclusion, and addressing risks in digital payment systems are crucial for inclusive economic growth.</p>	<p>ICT core business shows "emerging" global maturity.</p> <p>There is a concentration of technology production in regions like North America, East Asia and Pacific, and Europe. To boost global convergence, it is essential for other regions to invest strategically to address gaps in technology production and telecommunications.</p>
<p>Industry digital transformation is progressing unevenly.</p> <p>There is strong performance in digital applications for transactions. Expanding digital services, improving e-commerce conditions, and supporting small businesses are necessary for broader digital integration.</p>	<p>Most countries are classified as "digitally nascent" in terms of innovation.</p> <p>Advanced innovative capacity is concentrated in a few regions. Fostering startup ecosystems, increasing venture capital availability, and developing national AI strategies can drive innovation and address global inequities.</p>	<p>Significant advancements in digital health and education have been driven by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Continued progress requires addressing gender disparities and expanding digital offerings to ensure equitable access to digital health and education solutions.</p>	<p>The adoption of digital tools for work and training is increasing globally.</p> <p>There has been notable progress in developing economies. Enhancing support for gig workers, improving work flexibility, boosting work digitalization and job seeking/matching tools and e-learning are key areas with significant impact on prosperity.</p>	<p>Global digital engagement is Advanced, with most regions achieving high levels of digital inclusion.</p> <p>Key areas for further development include closing gender and disability gaps, addressing rural-urban divides, and supporting vibrant online civil societies.</p>



DIGITAL ECONOMY MATURITY CLASSIFICATION

<p>Frontier (>80 out of 100)</p> <p>This level signifies leadership in innovation, technological adoption, and digital infrastructure. Countries in this range are global benchmarks for digital standards and best practices.</p>	<p>Advanced (70-79.9 out of 100)</p> <p>Countries in this range perform well in terms of digital maturity, but there remain some opportunities for further enhancement and optimization.</p>	<p>Transitioning (60-69.9 out of 100)</p> <p>Indicates a decisive stage of development of digital economies. Countries have made significant strides but are still working on solidifying their digital capabilities.</p>	<p>Emerging (50-59.9 out of 100)</p> <p>Countries in this level are in the process of building their digital economies. They have foundational elements in place but need more development to reach higher maturity levels.</p>	<p>Nascent (<50 out of 100)</p> <p>Countries in this category are at the early stages of their digital economy journey. They are generally focusing on establishing the basic elements of digital infrastructure and policy to foster future growth.</p>
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THE DEN COMPRISES THREE DIMENSIONS MADE UP OF TEN PILLARS

<h3>DIGITAL ENABLERS</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE The telecommunications and internet infrastructure that enables people and businesses to access digital activities. It is measured by broadband access coverage, speed, and affordability. None of the other pillars can exist without digital infrastructure. Average digital economy maturity level: Transitioning DIGITAL CAPABILITIES The competencies of citizens to participate in the digital economy to their full potential. Increased digital literacy and preparedness helps the population to thrive in the digital ecosystem and makes them more likely to engage. Average digital economy maturity level: Transitioning DIGITAL REGULATION AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION Focuses on establishing and regulating the digital environment for effective governance. It encompasses the regulatory framework and fundamental administrative operations necessary for the efficient functioning of digital activities within a country. Average digital economy maturity level: Advanced DIGITAL FINANCE The access to, and use of, digital banking and other financial activities that contribute to developing the wider digital economy. Digital finance can help bring people out of poverty and reduce inequalities. Average digital economy maturity level: Transitioning 	<h3>DIGITAL BUSINESS</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICT CORE BUSINESS The level of economic activity from the producers of digital technologies and services (hardware and software) and the businesses heavily reliant on digital technologies. These businesses form the core of the internet economy, enabling the growing use of digital platforms and the creation of more efficient services and products better tailored to consumers. Average digital economy maturity level: Emerging DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION The degree to which traditional industries are being transformed by digital inputs (technologies and services). Industry digital transformation is a huge opportunity for growth in many businesses. Average digital economy maturity level: Emerging DIGITAL INNOVATION How a country supports the use of digital technology for new products, services, and business models. It includes the startup environment and frontier research. Digital innovation is imperative for businesses to survive in the fast-paced digital economy. Average digital economy maturity level: Nascent 	<h3>DIGITAL SOCIETY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DIGITAL FOR HEALTH AND EDUCATION How digital technologies are employed in these social services and how they can empower citizens with respect to individual outcomes for human well-being. The value of digital access to these services was highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic, which illustrated the cost of the digital divide and the urgency of closing it. Average digital economy maturity level: Advanced DIGITAL FOR WORK AND TRAINING How digital technologies and services can empower the workforce, transform the workplace, and provide new income opportunities for citizens. Average digital economy maturity level: Transitioning DIGITAL FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION How digital technologies and services impact civic life as well as the connectivity and inclusion of all people in the digital society. The fast-paced emergence of digital technologies offers opportunities for inclusive economic, social, and political growth. Average digital economy maturity level: Advanced
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DIGITAL ECONOMY NAVIGATOR BY THE NUMBERS

